

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
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O P 211721Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1499
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 20732

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, UK, RH, UN
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: UN POLICE OBSERVER UNITS

1. IN BRUSSELS, DAVID OWEN COMMENTED TO THE SECRETARY THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO DEVISE A SCHEME FOR UN LIAISON WITH RHODESIA POLICE DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. THE FCO HAS NOW COMPLETED A DRAFT OUTLINE FOR THE CREATION OF A UN CIVILIAN POLICE OBSERVERS (UNCIVPOL) UNIT. THE DRAFT DOES NOT SUGGEST NUMBERS AND THE ANNEXES REFERRED TO HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED BUT JOHNNY GRAHAM GAVE EMBASSY OFFICER A COPY ON DECEMBER 20. A COPY WILL ALSO BE PASSED TO PREM CHAND'S OFFICE IN NEW YORK WITH THE RECOGNITION THAT THE DECISION TO CREATE SUCH A UNIT LIES ENTIRELY WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL. TEXT FOLLOWS:

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BEGIN TEXT: CONCEPT FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF A UNITED NATIONS CIVILIAN POLICE OBSERVER GROUP
IN RHODESIA

INTRODUCTION

1. IT HAS BEEN AGREED IN DISCUSSION WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS (UN) THAT, AS ENVISAGED IN CMND 6919, IT

WILL BE DESIRABLE FOR A GROUP OF UN CIVILIAN POLICE OBSERVERS (UNCIVPOL) TO BE ATTACHED TO THE RHODESIAN POLICE (BSAP) DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. THE PURPOSE OF THIS PAPER IS TO ESTABLISH A CONCEPT FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF UNCIVPOL. IT IS INTENDED MERELY AS A GUIDE AND NOT IN ANY SENSE A FIRM PROPOSAL SINCE THE DEPLOYMENT, COMPOSITION AND ROLE OF UNCIVPOL WOULD BE MATTERS FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO APPROACH THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

2. DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD THE BSAP WILL BE CHARGED WITH PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER. THE ROLE ENVISAGED FOR THE UN ZIMBABWE FORCE (UNZF) DURING THE SAME PERIOD WILL INCLUDE THE SUPERVISION OF THE CEASE-FIRE AND, IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH APPEAR TO BE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE BSAP AND ON THE REQUEST OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE AND THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, SUPPORT FOR THE CIVIL POWER.

3. WHILST THE PRIMARY ROLE OF UNCIVPOL WILL BE TO OBSERVE, ADVISE, NEGOTIATE AND REPORT IN ORDER TO ASSURE AND AUTHENTICATE THE IMPARTIALITY OF THE BSAP, IT WILL ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT LIAISON ROLE IN KEEPING THE UN REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED OF THE LAW AND ORDER SITUATION AS WELL AS, IN AN EMERGENCY, PROVIDING AN IMPORTANT LIAISON LINK BETWEEN THE BSAP AND UNZF
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COMMANDERS CONCERNED.

DEPLOYMENT AND TASKS

COMMAND

4. IRRESPECTIVE OF THE STATUS OF THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE UN AUTHORITIES MAY PREFER THAT UNCIVPOL SHOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE COMMANDER UNZF TO DEPLOY AND ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS INSTRUCTIONS. THE COMMANDER UNCIVPOL, WHO WILL ALSO BE THE COMMANDER UNZF'S POLICE ADVISER, SHOULD THEREFORE BE LOCATED IN SALISBURY AT HEADQUARTERS UNZF; IN VIEW OF HIS COMMAND, LIAISON AND ADVISORY FUNCTIONS AN APPROPRIATE RANK IS ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER. NOTE: BRITISH POLICE RANKING IS USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PAPER.

DEPLOYMENT

5. HEADQUARTERS BSAP IS SITUATED IN SALISBURY AND THE BSAP PROVINCIAL ORGANISATION IS SHOWN AT ANNEX A. FROM THIS IT CAN BE SEEN THAT THERE ARE 5 BSAP PROVINCIAL COMMANDS (MANICALAND, MASHONALAND, MATABELEHAND, MIDLAND AND VICTORIA) EACH OF WHICH CONSISTS OF A VARYING NUMBER OF POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDS WHICH COVER ONE OR MORE CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS. A SIXTH

BSAP COMMAND OF PROVINCIAL RANK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
SALISBURY.

6. GENERAL POLICY AND ORGANISATION ARE CONTROLLED

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1500

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

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BY HEADQUARTERS BSAP BUT OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF ALL
BSAP UNITS, INCLUDING RESERVES AND DETACHMENTS OF THE
SUPPORT UNIT, IS EXERCISED AT PROVINCIAL LEVEL.

7. CONSEQUENTLY IT IS SUGGESTED THAT UNCIVPOL SHOULD
BE ORGANISED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. HEADQUARTERS UNZP AND BSAP. THE COMMANDER AND
HEADQUARTERS STAFF UNCIVPOL WILL BE SITUATED AT
HEADQUARTERS UNZF WITH CERTAIN OFFICERS, HEADED
BY A CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT, BEING ATTACHED TO
HEADQUARTERS BSAP AS PERMANENT LIAISON OFFICERS.
- B. BSAP PROVINCIAL COMMANDS. THE SENIOR UNCIVPOL
OFFICER IN EACH BSAP PROVINCIAL COMMAND WILL BE
A CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT WHO, TOGETHER WITH A
SMALL SUPPORTING STAFF, WILL BE ATTACHED TO THE
BSAP PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS. HE WILL HAVE (BLANK)

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LIAISON TEAMS, EACH HEADED BY A SUPERINTENDENT, TO ATTACH TO THE 3 BSAP DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS WITHIN THE PROVINCIAL COMMAND WHICH HE DEEMS TO BE OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE. NOTE: THE PRECISE NUMBER OF TEAMS MAY BE ADJUSTED AFTER RE-CONNAISSANCE AND FURTHER PLANNING TO MEET SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS; THIS MAY INVOLVE THE RE-ALLOCATION OF TEAMS BETWEEN PROVINCIAL COMMANDS OR THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL TEAMS. IN ADDITION HE WILL HAVE (BLANK) ROVER TEAMS TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY IN COVERING INCIDENTS, PROVIDING PERIODICAL LIAISON IN DISTRICTS TO WHICH PERMANENT LIAISON TEAMS ARE NOT ALLOCATED, OR IN SUPPLEMENTING THE RESOURCES OF DISTRICT LIAISON TEAMS. IN VIEW OF ITS DIFFERENT CHARACTERISTICS THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR DISTRICT LIAISON TEAMS IN SALISBURY AND THE NUMBER OF ROVER TEAMS NECESSARY IS REDUCED.

8. THIS DEPLOYMENT IS SHOWN DIAGRAMATICALLY AT ANNEX B AND A SUMMARY OF THE MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS, TOTALING (BLANK) OFFICERS AND NCOS, IS AT APPENDIX 1 TO ANNEX B. THESE FIGURES ARE FOR DUTY POLICEMEN ONLY AND DO NOT INCLUDE SPECIALIST, ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL PERSONNEL; THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE CANNOT BE ASSESSED AT PRESENT.

TASKS

9. WHILST IT IS NOT PRACTICABLE TO DEFINE THE TASKS OF UNCIVPOL WITH PRECISION IT IS CLEAR FROM ITS ROLES (VIDE PARAGRAPH 3) THAT ALTHOUGH ITS MEMBERS WILL NOT POSSESS ANY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY OR DIRECT POWERS OF ARREST, SEARCH, CROWD DISPERSAL ETC., AND WILL NOT BE ARMED, THEY SHOULD ENJOY UNRESTRICTED FACILITIES FOR:

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- A. OBSERVATION OF ALL ASPECTS OF BSAP ACTIVITY.
- B. ATTENDANCE AT ALL STAGES OF ANY INVESTIGATION.
- C. INVESTIGATIONS ON THEIR OWN ACCOUNT.
- D. COURT ATTENDANCE.
- E. ACCESS TO ANY PERSON DETAINED PENDING TRIAL.

MISCELLANEOUS FACTORS

COMMUNICATIONS

10. IT WILL BE IMPRACTICAL FOR UNCIVPOL TO RUN ITS OWN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK BECAUSE OF ITS SMALL NUMBERS

AND THE LARGE SIZE OF THE COUNTRY. HOWEVER, IT WILL
REQUIRE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATIONS:

A. PROVIDED BY THE UN

- (1) STATIC AND MOBILE ACCESS TO UNZF COMMAND
NETWORKS.
- (2) COURIER SERVICE.

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B. PROVIDED BY THE RHODESIANS

- (1) STATIC AND MOBILE ACCESS TO BSAP RADIO
SETS.
- (2) TELEPHONE AND TELEPRINTER LINKS.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

11. THE DAY TO DAY ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS OF
UNCIVPOL WILL NOT BE GREAT AND MUCH OF IT IS AVAILABLE
FROM BSAP RESOURCES (EG PETROL, STATIONERY ETC.).
WHEN THIS IS NOT SO, AS IN THE CASE OF UNIQUE NATIONAL
REQUIREMENTS, PROVISION WILL BE REQUIRED FROM THE
UNZF. HOWEVER, OBSERVERS WILL NEED TO RETAIN AN
INDEPENDENT STATUS AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE ACCOMMODATED

AND FED IN HOTELS OR INDEPENDENT MESSSES. ALTHOUGH
PERSONNEL AND SOME TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT WILL HAVE TO
BE PROVIDED UNDER UN ARRANGEMENTS, VEHICLES AND BSAP
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RADIO EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE RHODESIAN
AUTHORITIES.

SELECTION OF OBSERVERS

12. UNCIVPOL DETACHMENTS IN EACH PROVINCE SHOULD BE
OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITY TO THE UNZF UNIT IN THE AREA
IN ORDER TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY DO, AND ARE SEEN TO,
ACT INDEPENDENTLY OF THE UN MILITARY. IN ADDITION
IT IS IMPORTANT FOR OBSERVERS TO BE FLUENT IN WRITTEN
AND SPOKEN ENGLISH WHICH IS THE LANGUAGE USED IN ALL
FORMAL POLICE ACTIVITY.

CONCLUSIONS

13. THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS MAY BE DRAWN FROM THE
FOREGOING:

(TO BE COMPLETED WHEN DRAFT TO THE POINT HAS BEEN
FIRMED UP). END TEXT.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PDEV, UK, RH, UN
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vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/412d16ff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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